

Beaufort Wind Scale (Estimated wind speeds)

Beaufort number	Wind speed			Mean wind speed (kt / km/h / mph)	Description	Land conditions
	kt	km/h	Mph			
0	0	0	0	0 / 0 / 0	Calm	Calm. Smoke rises vertically.
1	1-3	1-6	1-3	2 / 4 / 2	Light air	Wind motion visible in smoke.
2	4-6	7-11	4-7	5 / 9 / 6	Light breeze	Wind felt on exposed skin. Leaves rustle.
3	7-10	12-19	8-12	9 / 17 / 11	Gentle breeze	Leaves and smaller twigs in constant motion.
4	11-15	20-29	13-18	13 / 24 / 15	Moderate breeze	Dust and loose paper is raised. Small branches begin to move.
5	16-21	30-39	19-24	19 / 35 / 22	Fresh breeze	Smaller trees sway.
6	22-27	40-50	25-31	24 / 44 / 27	Strong breeze	Large branches in motion. Whistling heard in overhead wires. Umbrella use becomes difficult.
7	28-33	51-62	32-38	30 / 56 / 35	Near gale	Whole trees in motion. Effort needed to walk against the wind.
8	34-40	63-75	39-46	37 / 68 / 42	Gale	Twigs broken from trees. Cars veer on road.
9	41-47	76-87	47-54	44 / 81 / 50	Severe gale	Light structure damage.
10	48-55	88-102	55-63	52 / 96 / 60	Storm	Trees uprooted. Considerable structural damage.
11	56-63	103-119	64-73	60 / 112 / 70	Violent storm	Widespread structural damage.
12	64-80	120	74-95	73 / 148 / 90	Hurricane	Considerable and widespread damage to structures.





What to Report – Some Guidelines

Name	_____		
When	_____	Type of event	_____
Where	_____	Damage	_____
Duration	_____	Hail Size	_____ Measured / estimated
Headed	_____	Wind Speed	_____ Measured / estimated
Injuries	_____	Flooding	_____
Fatalities	_____	Rainfall (amount)	_____ Measured / estimated

Definitions

- **Wall Cloud** - An isolated lowering from a cumulonimbus cloud base that resembles a pedestal (watch for rotation and persistence)
- **Funnel Cloud** - Violently rotating column of air that does not reach the ground (watch for rotation)
- **Tornado** - Violently rotating column of air that touches the ground (watch for debris on the ground – a funnel may not be visible!)
- **Wind Damage** - structural, trees uprooted, and/or large healthy limbs down
- **Wind Speed** - approximately 50 mph or stronger
- **Flash Flooding** – report any rapid rises of water, especially if it is life-threatening!
- **Hail** – any size

Reports should provide as much detail as possible (describe where, when, how, etc. of the event.)